

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS—COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

Grant and His Defamers.

From the N. Y. World.

In fairness, after giving publicity to what the Tribune, the Independent, the Anti-Slavery Standard, the Revolution, and other radical journals have printed respecting the habits of General Grant, we now reprint from the Nation what that journal calls an extraordinary letter, written by a "thoughtful testotaller," who defends the "generals of our armies against the radical defamers who persist in calling Grant a drunkard. The testimony is not so positive as that offered by Wendell Phillips; but, as it is the first rebutting evidence we have seen in any radical paper, it would be the World's duty as a newspaper merely to give the same publicity to the defense which it has given to the radical defamations of Grant's character, for such the new witness assumes them to be. But we have a higher motive. In common with all good citizens, we desire that a man occupying the responsible position at the head of the army should be cleared, if possible, from the imputations which have been cast upon him by Wendell Phillips, Theodore Tilton, and others who are now pressing the man whom they pronounce a drunkard for the office of President. According to the "thoughtful testotaller" the whole story about Grant's teetotalism in the streets of Washington on a Sunday morning rests upon the circumstance that, on the Sunday morning alluded to, Grant had breakfast with Sheridan; that there was "a good deal of wine drunk;" and that thereafter Grant was dubious about two doors, either or both of which might open upon the dwelling of Dent. So that, after all, a man wavering in the streets on Sunday morning, doubtful between two doors, appears in the Independent of January 31, 1868, as a man "occasionally seen fuddled in the streets;" he is published in the Tribune, April 18, 1868, as a man "so drunk that he could not stand on his legs;" and he is denounced by Wendell Phillips in a public speech in Boston, May 29, 1868, as a man "who cannot stand up before a glass of liquor without falling down." Worse yet, within a week or so Mr. Phillips has again declared, over his own signature, in the Anti-Slavery Standard, that Grant "was drunk in the public streets since the 1st day of January," and that it is "a fact as patent as the sun in the noonday." It is the old story of the "three black crows;" for it turns out that the whole has no other foundation than that Grant was in a state of dubiety between two doors on a Sunday morning! If merely trying the "wrong house" were basis for a charge of drunkenness, his effort to get into the White House would denote inebriety bordering on delirium. It is more than likely that the Tribune, Independent, Anti-Slavery Standard, and other radical journals, have outrageously maligned their candidate. The World can afford to be generous to General Grant, and we demand of Wendell Phillips, Theodore Tilton, Mrs. Stanton, Mr. Greeley, and other radicals who have originated and circulated the stories about Grant's drunkenness, that they shall either produce proof that their declarations are founded upon facts, or shall retract them as vile slanders.

Not a Deficiency, but a Surplus.

From the N. Y. Times.

We were enabled on Friday to give an approximate idea of the receipts of the Government during the current fiscal year, and to show, from the experience of the quarter just ended, the probability of a surplus instead of a deficiency. We printed on Saturday an official statement, which more than justified our anticipation of the possibility of such a document has been rendered necessary by gross perversions of fact which have recently been circulated under Democratic auspices. It is the result of a careful investigation instituted by the Chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, and is a conclusive answer to the gloomy prophecies of the Democratic press.

Estimating the returns of the whole year by those of its first quarter, the customs revenue will be \$170,000,000, with a moral certainty that any falling off cannot exceed five millions. Making the amplest allowance for possible contingencies, the year's receipts from this source may be stated at \$165,000,000. The internal revenue, again, may be relied upon to yield more than \$160,000,000, while there is a probability that it will rise to near \$200,000,000. The smaller of these amounts is predicated on a continuance of the receipts of the past quarter, which felt the effects of the abolition of industrial taxes without realizing the gain to accrue from the new law relative to the collection of the tax on distilled spirits and tobacco. When the latter shall come into full operation next month, large additions to the internal revenue may be expected. For the present, however, and to avoid the charge of exaggeration, the estimate is limited to an average which is below rather than over the truth. The same desire to be on the safe side is apparent in the estimated amount of receipts from miscellaneous sources. They are put down at \$45,000,000, although the only known deviation from those of last year, when they exceeded fifty millions, is less than two millions.

After exercising the utmost caution, then, it is fair to assume that the total revenue will not be less than \$370,000,000. This conclusion is based upon the figures of the first quarter of the year, verified by the experience of other years. The amount is more likely to be four hundred millions, but, for prudential reasons, Mr. Washburne has preferred to exclude from his estimate all doubtful quantities.

Will \$370,000,000 cover the expenditures of the Government? This is the next point to be ascertained. Last year the outgo was slightly in excess of this sum, and the additions of the current year, under some heads, are more than covered by reductions under other heads. The only known additions are the Alaska purchase, an increase of more than two millions in the pension expenditure, and a Post Office deficiency which the department estimates at five millions; making a total of \$14,500,000. Supposing no change of an opposite character to occur, a deficiency to that amount might arise. But the saving on the payments of interest will alone balance these additional items, the interest having last year been \$140,423,985, while for the present year it will not vary greatly from \$125,000,000. Moreover, there were last year payments to the States on account of war debts exceeding ten millions, which will not recur, or, if at all, for insignificant amounts. The Freedmen's Bureau, which last year cost considerably more than three millions, is this year being wound up with an appropriation of half a million. The river and harbor expenditures have been reduced from six millions to a million and a half; and the measures of retrenchment applied to the army and navy will produce a saving of twenty-five millions in each. The total reductions as compared with last year's expenditures form an aggregate of

\$81,677,308, and bring down the estimated expenditure—including the extras we have named—to \$308,322,692.

Instead of anticipating a deficiency, the country may, with reasonable confidence, look forward to a surplus amounting to between sixty and seventy millions as a result of Republican management for the current financial year.

Brief.

From the Nashville Union. The Massachusetts radicals have invited the nation in nominating this cock-eyed Beast for re-election to Congress. The wretch, stained with every political crime, and leprous with personal infamy, is a disgrace to the public councils; and it was hoped that even the radical convention at Worcester would have respect enough for the opinion of the civilized world, which had stamped on a brow already disfigured by nature the brand of its scorn, to have kept him at home. In his position the American people might have forgotten to a degree what they can never view with detestation—a soldier in whom politeness, brutality, and thievishy struggled for pre-eminence as the meanest trait—a libeller of female virtue, and the scurviest politician of his time, reeking with corruption; but to thrust him forward with the endorsement of re-election looks like glorying in the shame which his degraded career has reflected on the country. However, the loathsome creature is one of the most influential in the Jacobin party, and it has further need for such service as he only can render.

The Issue Fairly Stated—Seymour or Grant?

From the N. Y. Sun.

Our friends of the Express, with the sagacity that always marks experienced and astute politicians, have, on the sober second thought, retired from the arena of passion and entered the field of argument. In a recent article they impliedly admit that either General Grant or Governor Seymour should withdraw from the Presidential canvass. They appreciate, no doubt, as we do, the vast benefits that would result to the whole country, and especially to the distracted South, from the unanimous election of a Chief Magistrate at this novel emergency. Of course, from their standpoint they argue in favor of the withdrawal of General Grant rather than Governor Seymour.

Assuming, then, that the Express, in unison not only with the Sun, but with a large number of influential journals of both parties, has arrived at the conclusion that the national crisis is so unprecedented as to demand extraordinary sacrifices on the part of public men, the only question to be discussed is, which candidate which shall withdraw, Governor Seymour or General Grant? It has seemed to us that, in view of the fact of the inevitable defeat that awaits Governor Seymour if he remains in the field, it will be much easier to induce him to retire than to persuade General Grant to abandon a victory that he already feels to be within his grasp. Through the generous nature and modest pretensions of General Grant would incline him to concede much to the wishes of his friends, yet, as politicians are invariably selfish, we could hardly expect the Republicans, with a great triumph immediately before them, to enter upon the task of trying to extort a surrender from a man who has been accustomed to fight his battles through to the end.

Not do the two candidates occupy equal grounds in the respect of Governor Seymour has never pretended to be a Republican. General Grant has never voted any but a Democratic ticket. It would be much easier, therefore, to persuade the Democrats to go over to Grant than to induce the Republicans to support Seymour.

This case is not without its difficulties. Which of the two distinguished candidates sought to sacrifice personal feelings for the pacification of the country, depends very much upon the prospects of the one or the other if both remain in the field. The Express admits that one of them ought to withdraw, and recommends the unanimous election of the other. We think that for every reason it would be beneficial not only to the country, but to the Democratic party especially, that the man to retire should be Governor Seymour. But we shall be glad to consider with candor and respect any arguments that may be adduced on the other side.

Who Freed the Negroes?

From the Nashville Union and American.

The colored people of the Southern States hold themselves to be free, and the radical press claims the credit of their emancipation. Did the emancipation proclamation of President Lincoln invest them with a valid and legal freedom? The best constitutional lawyers had great doubts of it. The Congress of the United States thought it too questionable, that it proposed to amend the Constitution by declaring slavery abolished and forbidding its re-establishment. Such an amendment was submitted to the Legislatures of the several States for ratification in 1865. The adoption of this amendment required the assent of three-fourths of the States. President Johnson, on assuming the administration of the Government, proceeded immediately, after the manner of his predecessor—the author of the emancipation proclamation—to organize the States of the South, with the view of having this amendment ratified by the requisite number of States. Without such action, the proposition to consummate and make sure the emancipation, would have been a mere inoperative paper; of no binding force, and leaving the negro's right to freedom an open question. There was not a sufficient number of so-called loyal States to accomplish the amendment. The Southern States, as organized by President Johnson, promptly ratified the proposed amendment, and enabled the Secretary of State to put the great seal of the American nation, sanctioned by the whole people, to the colored man's freedom. This is the history of emancipation. Who will dispute that it was the people of the Southern States—the men now stigmatized as Rebels and charged with desiring to re-enslave the negro—who, by their voluntary act, secured the colored man's freedom, and placed it forever beyond legal question?

Now, what have the loud-mouthed Radical friends of the negro done since to invalidate this sacred ordinance, under which he found secure shelter for himself and his posterity from all fear of slavery in the future? By act of Congress in March, 1867, they pronounced these Southern State governments which had ratified the anti-slavery amendment to be illegal, and nullified every act they had performed. And in this they virtually repudiated the ratification. They have re-opened the slavery question, and destroyed the legal guarantees and safeguards which had been created for the negro's security and freedom. If the ratifications of Virginia, South Carolina, and Georgia, were of no effect, the thirteenth amendment is a nullity, and the Southern negro has no warrant for his freedom but the emancipation proclamation, which Radicals themselves pronounce insufficient in law.

When the colored people are reckoning up the number of their real friends, they should consider these facts, and decide between those who ratified their freedom and sought to make it final, and those who willfully undo the work.

Southern Democratic Leaders in New York.

From the N. Y. Herald.

Some time since it was announced with considerable flourish of trumpets that a number of Southern Democratic leaders would visit the North for the purpose of taking the stump in favor of Seymour and Blair. We have seen the announcement of the arrival of several of those distinguished gentlemen in our city, including that of Howell Cobb, Ben Hill, Governor Vance, General Gordon, and several others, and it is not impossible that Brigadier Bob Toombs is lodged somewhere among us, as when last heard from in Georgia he was packing his carpet bag for a trip North. These Southern leaders have been hospitably treated by our Democratic and other sympathizing magnates. They have had the entire to the society of our Democratic nabobs and millionaires. They have been dined and wined, flattered and laqueized, Manhattanized and Tammanyized, and been made the recipients of a genuine welcome at the hands of our most venerated and opulent and aristocratic Klutchenbocker families, to say nothing of the "shent-per-shent" Democratic aristocracy of a later generation.

All this is very well so far as it goes. It is well for the city of New York to maintain her reputation as the most hospitable, as it is fast becoming the most magnificent and prosperous, city in the world. It is well that any of our unfortunate fellow-countrymen of the South have been made to enjoy this warm and gorgeous sociality. But why did these Southern gentlemen come here for? Were they only to be feasted and toasted, courted and smirked upon? or was it to lay before the people of the North, in their own burning Southern tongue, descriptions of the wrongs and outrages the South is at this moment laboring under, and to appeal to the justice, the honor, the magnanimity of the great people of the North for relief therefrom? We believe they came here to adopt the latter course, and that they have not followed it because they have been advised to the contrary by the wiser, kinder, and more astute managers of the Democratic party here. Are they afraid to make speeches? To be so would be mean and cowardly, entirely unworthy the chivalric reputation of every born Southern gentleman. That General Grant will be the next President every Southerner who has examined the question must admit. All they can say, then, will not alter the final result; and it is higher, nobler, purer, more honorable and dignified for these Southern leaders to boldly proclaim their principles and views than to surrender them without an effort and allow them to be covered over, perhaps, with the shroud of oblivion.

We tell them, then, that they should talk to our Northern people, proclaim their sentiments, and within eight years, now that slavery has gone up forever, we venture to predict they will see them prevail and themselves the managers of the Government. Southern leaders like Wade Hampton, Forrest, Vance, Ben Hill, Howell Cobb, Toombs, A. H. Stephens, General Gordon, and a host of others, must have settled in the North, and that they cannot expect to be victorious in the present campaign. They should be and no doubt are now making arrangements for the future, shaping their coming policy, healing ruptures, cementing friendships, re-establishing their credit at home and abroad, organizing victory, making success a duty, and otherwise preparing for a grand constitutional triumph should the policy of the Government, which is the policy of the nation, be the policy of the North. Every man has a right to attempt to revolutionize a government in a constitutional way. In our Government, at the present time, the officeholders, bondholders, place-seekers, and contract plunderers and jobbers manage things pretty much their own way. They elect a man to secure the spoils. But in this age of progress, with the vast changes in the commercial, social, moral, political, and material condition of our country constantly occurring, it is the part of wisdom for all parties, both North and South, to help along the work of constitutional improvement and make the greatness of the nation keep pace with the grandeur of passing events. Whatever changes in the Government may be necessary to accomplish this end can be secured in a constitutional and, we believe, a peaceful way. The South can lead off in this splendid movement. They can unfurl their banners even now, and with the intense opposition that exists in the North to the hideous radical idea—the policy of negro supremacy, which is an outrage alike upon the laws of God and man—they can open a campaign which must meet a hearty co-operation among the masses of the people of the North, and eventuate in their triumphant and constitutional restoration to the reins of the government of the nation.

Democratic Falsehoods Exposed.

From the N. Y. Tribune.

The exhibit of the state of our national finances, which we printed on Saturday morning, and which may be regarded as official, will be read with interest, apart from its political bearing, by every one who has the welfare of the country at heart. It completely demolishes the miserable pretense, set up by Mr. Delmar and supported by the World, the Journal of Commerce, and other Democratic lights, that the current fiscal year is likely to show a large surplus of expenditures over receipts. It demonstrates that, even with the present lax administration of the law, the surplus of receipts over expenditures will probably range from \$50,000,000 to \$75,000,000. With the rigid enforcement of the law respecting the collection of revenue from tobacco and spirits—and this enforcement will certainly be attained during the last quarter of the fiscal year, under the administration of General Grant—the surplus will undoubtedly prove much greater. As it is, the receipts derived from distilled spirits for the quarter of the present fiscal year just elapsed make it certain that the revenue from this source will be at least double that received during the last fiscal year. It is useless to attempt to explain away these figures. One quarter of the present fiscal year is closed, and the actual receipts for this quarter, paid into the Treasury, will undoubtedly prove nearly or quite \$90,000,000. On the other hand, there can be no question that the expenditures, which last year were reported at \$370,000,000, will be much less for the current fiscal year. Nothing has occurred which can in any way tend to increase the expenditures above the amount for the last fiscal year, except the amount appropriated for the Alaska purchase, an increase in the pension list of about \$2,000,000, and a possible Post Office deficiency of \$5,000,000. Any fact which can be adduced to show that the expenses of the last fiscal year will be greatly reduced. Thus, for example, the amount expended last year for interest on account of the arrears due on the compound interest notes was over \$140,000,000. This year the amount to be paid on account of interest will not exceed \$120,000,000. Of the truth of this any one may satisfy himself by referring to the statement in regard to the interest-bearing obligations of the United States, in the regular monthly exhibit published by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Again, among the other items by which the expenditures for the present fiscal year are to be reduced, we may mention the sum for the reimbursement of States on account of war claims, viz., \$10,000,000; the diminution

in the appropriation for Rivers and Harbors, \$4,000,000; in the appropriation for Freedmen's Bureau, \$2,500,000; while the reduction of the army, which according to the official showing of the Secretary of War will amount to 18,000 men between the first of July last and the first of January next, the reduction of the expenses of the navy, and the civil and miscellaneous list, will further reduce expenditures to the extent of at least \$50,000,000. With this, there will be an almost certain revenue of \$370,000,000. Besides, it should be remembered that the amount paid out for bounties—\$38,000,000 last year, and \$40,000,000 estimated for this year—does not run over into another year, as the expenditures for the present year will probably pay all claims on the Treasury from this source. Congress, therefore, would on this ground alone be safe in legislating with a view to an excess of \$40,000,000 in the receipts over the expenditures for the next fiscal year. In short, the whole exhibit, instead of being discouraging, as Democratic authorities would have the people believe, is in the highest degree encouraging, and proves what every one acquainted with the resources of the country has long known, that the enormous vitality of this nation is sufficient to overcome all the adverse influences that result from a long war, the necessities for heavy taxation, and the mistakes of a weak and wicked administration.

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HAMILTON INSTITUTE DAY AND BOARDING-SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES, No. 330 CHESTNUT STREET, Philadelphia, will reopen on MONDAY, September 7, 1868. For terms, etc., apply to 2817 PHILIP A. CREGAR, A. M., Principal.

JANE M. HARPER WILL REOPEN HER School for Boys and Girls, No. 172 CHESTNUT STREET, September (ninth month) 21st. Admissions for the same can be made at the room on the 17th and 18th, from 10 to 12 o'clock, or after the school commences. 916 1/2 W.

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Dupont's Gunpowder, Refined Nitre, Charcoal, 25c. W. Baker & Co.'s Chocolate, Cocoa, and Biscuits. Crocker, Bros. & Co.'s Yellow Alcohol, and Biscuits. Bolls and Nails.

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EDUCATIONAL. STEVENS DALE INSTITUTE. BOARDING SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES. Terms—Board, Tuition, etc.—per scholar for year, \$100. NO EXTRAS. Circulars at Messrs. Fairbanks & Ewing's, No. 715 CHESTNUT STREET; also at Messrs. T. B. Peterson & Brothers, No. 906 CHESTNUT STREET.

CHILDREN SEMINARY (LATE LISWOD HALL), opposite the York Road Station, North Pennsylvania Railroad, seven miles from Philadelphia. The Fifteenth Session of Miss CARROLL Select Boarding School for Young Ladies will commence at the above beautiful and healthy situation, September 1st, 1868. Increased accommodations having been obtained by change of location, there are a few vacancies, which may be filled by early application to the Principal, Shoemakerstown, Pa., Montgomery County, Pa. Circulars and full information regarding the school given at the office of JAY COOK & Co., Bankers, No. 114 S. THIRTIETH STREET, Philadelphia, or at above address.

S. FRANCIS COLLEGE, IN CARE OF S. FRANCIS BROTHERS, LORISTON, Canada. For 1868, four courses from Christmas to Christmas, with privilege of conferring degrees. Location the most healthy in the State, the Allegany Mountains being the natural barrier against cold winds, and the scenery is beautiful. The year commences 1st of September and ends 31st of June. Land surveying apparatus furnished gratis. Students admitted from eight years to manhood. Board and tuition payable in advance. Languages taught—Latin, Greek, French, English, Italian, Spanish, German, and French languages extra. Rev. Bishop Wood, Philadelphia. Rev. Right Rev. Bishop Donnell, Pittsburg, and Rev. T. S. Reynolds, Loriston. Music (piano and use of instrument), \$5.

HAMILTON INSTITUTE DAY AND BOARDING-SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES, No. 330 CHESTNUT STREET, Philadelphia, will reopen on MONDAY, September 7, 1868. For terms, etc., apply to 2817 PHILIP A. CREGAR, A. M., Principal.

JANE M. HARPER WILL REOPEN HER School for Boys and Girls, No. 172 CHESTNUT STREET, September (ninth month) 21st. Ad